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winter of 57-56 B.C.; the grant of the *stipendium* and of the ten *legati* is of uncertain date, but is generally supposed to have followed the deliberations at Luca in April, 56 B.C. It is mentioned in a letter to Lentulus (*Ad fam.* 1. 7. 10), which is thought to belong to July, 56 B.C. From s. 43 of the speech one suspects that Cicero had heard something from his brother after Quintus met Pompey in Sardinia, soon after the conference at Luca. But none of these vaguer clues is particularly helpful in view of the definite allusion in s. 14 to an event of May 15.

Lange (*op. cit.*) believed that the direct appeal in s. 21 to the consul, Philippus, indicated that the speech was delivered in June, because Philippus must have had the fasces in that month, since Marcellinus seems to have had them in January (cf. *Ad fam.* 1. 1. 2; 1. 2. 1; *Ad Q. Fr.* 2. 4. 5). With this view Rauschen (*op. cit.*) agrees, but Hildebrandt (*op. cit.*) thinks that the conclusion is unwarranted.

As far as I have been able to discover, one bit of internal evidence has been overlooked by all of the commentators. In s. 15 Cicero says: "Hosce [i.e., Gabinium et Pisonem] igitur imperatores habebimus? quorum alter [i.e., Piso] non audet nos certiores facere, qua re imperator appelletur, alterum [i.e., Gabinium], si tabellarii non cessarint, necesse est paucis diebus paeniteat audere." Now, it would take from one to two months for the news to reach Gabinus in Syria that the Senate had denied him a *supplicatio* on May 15; for, in a letter to Atticus (5. 19. 1) we hear that Cicero in Cilicia has received a letter from Rome on the forty-seventh day after it had left the city, and that this was an unusually quick journey. Allowing, then, for a somewhat careless use of *paucis diebus* in the above passage, we have a right to conclude that Cicero is probably speaking well on in the month of June, certainly not in May.

As for a limit *post quem non*, the discussion of the provinces to be assigned to the consuls of the following year had to take place before the election of those consuls, which would normally occur in July. Of course, in the year 56 B.C. the consular elections did not take place at all, but there is no evidence in Cicero's oration that at this time any unusual delay was anticipated.

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THE H SYMBOL IN CICERO *ATT.* XIII. 33. 2.

"Ad Faberium, ut tibi placet, litteras misi, cum Balbo autem puto te aliquid fecisse H in Capitolio."

The H of this passage (the reading of all the manuscripts) was supposed by Boot to be the misplaced note of an early scholar, signifying *hinc incipit alia* (sc. *epistola*), but the generally received interpretation is that of Bosius, who regarded it as an abbreviation of *hodie*. This gives a meaning that is not impossible (though it is improbable), but I think there is no evidence

that *hodie* was ever abbreviated. The solution I wish to propose is that H here is not a letter, but the old abbreviation of *enim*, and that a preceding *fuisti* has fallen out on account of *fecisse*. We should therefore read "cum Balbo autem, puto te aliquid fecisse, fuisti enim in Capitolio," "for you have been on the Capitol." A full account of this symbol is given in Lindsay's invaluable work on the ancient *notae* in Latin manuscripts.¹ It originated in the writing of *enim* with *n* and a cross-stroke, which in uncials became H and which in time would inevitably be mistaken for the capital letter H.² It occurs as early as the eighth century and (though it had a restricted but independent existence in Italy) is universally characteristic of the insular script. In view of this fact the occurrence of the symbol in all the manuscripts of the Letters would seem to be a striking evidence of the insular origin of the archetype, or at least of its origin in some one of the well-known continental centers where the insular script was in use.

The correction I have suggested gives an especially apposite meaning. Atticus had arranged to confer with Balbus as to a debt owed by Faberius, Caesar's secretary, to Cicero. This arrangement was known to Cicero, who can thus speak with certainty of Atticus having been on the Capitol, and in so doing he also gives a reason for the statement of the main clause. The phrase *in Capitolio*—"on the Capitol hill"—is too frequent to require illustration. The presence of Balbus here is doubtless due to the fact that, as Caesar's personal representative, he was in charge of the great sum of money which the latter had stored in the temple of Ops.³

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ON LUCRETIUS IV. 1125

IV. 1124: "languent officia atque aegrotat fama vacillans
unguenta et pulchra in pedibus Sicyonia rident"

Unguenta in 1125 is generally regarded as corrupt. I propose *sandalia*. The scribe repeated *anguent* from 1124; the stages of the corruption were *sandalia*, *sanguento*, *sanguenta*, *unguenta*. For the corruption of initial *s*, cf. iii. 574 *sese* O, *esse* Q; *ibid.* 606 *sed* O, *de* Q. That costly sandals were important parts of the *mundus muliebris* is plain from the article *solea* in Daremberg-Saglio and the citations there given. A Greek word applicable to *in pedibus* is needed to balance *Sicyonia*.—Q has *effacia* for *officia*.

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¹ *Notae Latinae*, pp. 63-64.

² See Loew, *The Beneventan Script*, p. 179, note.

³ Cic. *Phil.* ii. 93; *Att.* xiv. 18. 1.